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FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM//TOSCO 24 //
TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

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NEWS SUMMARY

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WHITE NOISE
SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: The Situation Room

SUBJECT: Morning News Summary

The Washington Post

The Security Council Sunday night renewed the six-month mandate of the UN peacekeeping force on the Golan Heights, paying Syria the political price of agreeing to participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in a full-scale Middle East debate in January. (A-1)

According to Bernard D. Nossiter, the suppression of last week's coup has wiped out nearly every senior leftist commander in Portugal's armed forces, sources close to President Francisco da Costa Gomes disclosed. As of Sunday, all units in the army, navy, and air force are thought to be loyal, but the purge of procommunist and ultra-left colonels, commanders, and majors will continue. (A-1)

Miguel Acoca reports that a communist leader released from prison under a general royal pardon warned Spain's King Juan Carlos that the anti-regime clandestine labor movement does not recognize his monarchy because it was imposed by the late dictator Francisco Franco. The king was also under attack from the extreme right. Speaking at a Civil War veterans' gathering in Avila, Jose Antonio Giron, a leader of the Falange, Spain's fascist party, warned against any sort of political "evolution" under the monarchy leading to the "cancellation of the regime." (A-6)

Former French Prime Minister Maurice Couve de Murville ended a ten-day mediation mission Sunday by noting "very real progress" by Lebanese political leaders in efforts to end the civil war. He left Beirut for Damascus and talks with Syrian President Assad, which he described as warranted because Syria "is directly concerned" with the Lebanese crisis. He is expected to tell the Syrians that they must bring pressure to bear on their Palestinian commando and Lebanese leftist allies to stop the fighting. He is scheduled to fly back to Paris Tuesday. (A-7)

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi dropped two senior ministers from her Cabinet in the first major shakeup of her govern-

ment since a national emergency was proclaimed in June. Defense Minister Swaran Singh, 68, and Shipping and Transport Minister Uma Shanker Dikshit, 74, both veterans of the independence campaign against the former British colonial rulers, submitted their resignations. There was no official explanation for dropping the two ministers, although it appeared that the prime minister was trying to bring younger party members into the government. (A-11)

The full text of Joseph Kraft's article entitled "The Price of Sino-American Rapport" will be forwarded. (A-15)

The full text of the Roland Evans and Robert Novak article entitled "A Chill in the Washington-Peking Connection" will be forwarded. (A-15)

The Pathet Lao, already in effective control of Laos, have called a national conference with the apparent objective of doing away with the country's monarchy and the governmental institutions formed during the days of the coalition of communists, rightists, and neutralists. (A-16)

The New York Times

Eric Pace reports that after two years of negotiations, Iran gave its final agreement yesterday to build a 1,000-mile natural gas pipeline to the Soviet Union and to provide more than \$400 million worth of gas a year to Europe. (1)

Henry Giniger says that a noted leftist labor leader freed early yesterday morning under an amnesty decree by King Juan Carlos I said that he would not recognize the legitimacy of the monarchy until the Spanish people had been freely consulted and given their consent. Mr. Camacho appeared at a news conference with two other men, all of whom, demanded full amnesty and said they would help promote a "nonviolent" campaign in the streets, factories, and schools to achieve it. (1)

A special to the Times from Lisbon quotes Mario Soares, leader of the Socialists, as declaring, "The failure of last week's rebellion is a major defeat for Alvaro Cunhal and the Communist Party's hard line, which aimed to repeat the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution in Portugal. Mr. Soares said that the Communists were "precipitated" into the coup attempt by over-estimating their own strength and believing their own propaganda. "The Communist Party's objective was to discredit the government, disorganize the administration, subvert the military so that it was no longer operational,

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undermine the economy, and thereby destroy the state," he said. "But they moved too soon." (3)

A special to the Times from Mexico City discloses that less than a month after open hostilities were threatened between Britain and Guatemala, the two governments have agreed to resume negotiations on the future status of the disputed Central American colony of Belize. After visits to Belize and Guatemala by Britain's minister of state at the foreign office, it was agreed that "wide-ranging" negotiations would resume next February. (11)

A Times editorial contends that the consequences of one of the least noted aspects of former President Nixon's visit to Moscow three years ago are beginning to emerge -- with credit to both the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, which was formed on that occasion, recently has been modest rather than grandiose, its contributions may be seen as real rather than rhetorical. The world's environmental future may not have been assured in these few years, but as a result of the cooperative program, some highly creditable projects are in progress. Only the naive will imagine that power politics is about to give way to a concern for world environment. But only the cynical will imagine that there is no developing connection between such a concern and an enlightened national self-interest. (30)

Anthony Lewis asks why there is little pressure in Congress and in the press to have Secretary Kissinger and the CIA officials testify in open sessions before congressional committees on covert operations in Chile and reaches the following conclusions: One reason is a natural respect for secrecy in the nation's intelligence services, though in fact plots to murder foreign leaders or overthrow their governments are not "intelligence." But there is also a personal reason. Henry Kissinger is a genius at softening up legislators and journalists -- at coopting them. One person on Capitol Hill said: "Every time we get close to a nerve, we find that it leads to Kissinger. And then, soon, we get the pressure to protect him." (31)

The complete text of an article by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn appearing on the op-ed page will be sent separately. (31)

The Baltimore Sun

Bruce Winters writes that Ronald Reagan yesterday stopped short of criticizing President Ford's China trip outright,

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but suggested it was time Chinese leaders visited the U.S. for a change. Interviewed on ABC's Issues and Answers Mr. Reagan also sharply limited President Ford's negotiating room by insisting that improvement in relations with Peking should not be contingent upon American abandonment of the late Chiang Kai-shek's government in exile on Taiwan. Mr. Ford does not appear close to any such move, but Mr. Reagan's declaration of support for Taiwan could freeze any more meaningful rapprochement with Peking for the duration of the 1976 presidential campaign. (A-1)

The largest increase in Canada's defense budget since the Korean war has been approved by the Cabinet, committing the country to \$1.5 billion worth of new arms within the next five years. Canadian and U.S. aviation companies will benefit; so will West German tank manufacturers, in all likelihood, as Canada beefs up its North Atlantic Treaty Organization force in Europe, and its domestic defense capabilities. (A-4)

A Sun editorial says that all parties now acknowledge that the Peking visit President Ford opens today will do little more than affirm that both sides want some relationship to survive the 1976 presidential election. The trip is so drained of purpose that the Chinese have leaked word that they go through these motions because they couldn't refuse the President's self-invitation. Secretary Kissinger says the Chinese sought the trip to show Moscow the relationship is healthy. If neither side admits it wanted the trip, it is fair to ask why it proceeds. For the Americans, one mandatory place to run for President of the U.S. is overseas. If candidate Ford lacks an image in world affairs, what better cure than a few overseas campaign trips by President Ford? The trip's value to the Chinese is harder to see. China-U.S. relations will sort of hobble along even without normal relations because Peking and Washington have some coinciding interests. But workaday diplomacy can keep relations hobbling at a pace easily as favorable as any expected from the President's trip. (A-8)

Mary McGrory article on Ambassador Moynihan is being sent in full text. (A-9)

An interview with John Stewart Service will be sent separately.